GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1126
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
PRODUCTION OF COTTON AND CANE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of cotton and cane has considerably come down during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of fall in production of cotton in Andhra Pradesh particularly in Guntur; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the growth of the two crops by introducing new high yielding varieties?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The production of cotton declined during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-01, but it has shown an increase during 2001-02. The production of sugarcane, which had increased in 1999-2000, remained almost the same in 2000-01, but registered a decline in 2001-02, as is evident from the table given below.

Production of Cotton and Sugarcane

Crop	1998-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02+
Cotton (million bales of 170 Kgs. each)	12.29	11.53	9.65	11.69
Sugarcane (million tonnes)	288.72	299.32	299.21	292.21

+ Fourth Advance estimates as on 27.6.2002

(b) While the fall in production of cotton from 1998-99 to 1999-2000 was primarily due to fall in area under cotton cultivation from 9.34 million hectares to 8.71 million hectares, the fall during 2000-01 was due to deficient rainfall in western India, as a result of which large areas faced drought conditions. The production during 2001-02, although better than the two previous years, was adversely affected by the widespread incidence of American Ballworm in Northern India.

The production of sugarcane during 2001-02 was subdued due to moisture stress in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

(c) The production of Cotton in Andhra Pradesh during 1999-2000 and 2000-01, andthe expected production in 2001-02 does not show a fall, although the production in Guntur in 2001-02 is expected to decline, as may be seen from the table below. Production of Cotton

(thousand bales of 170 Kgs. each)

	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02+
Andhra Pradesh	1595	1663	1889

of which Guntur 253 253 194

+ Fourth Advance estimates as on 27.6.2002.

(d) A Technology Mission on Cotton (TMOC) has already been launched to increaseproduction and productivity of this crop. The major thrust areas being pursued for improved cotton and sugarcane production, including introduction of high yielding varieties of the two crops, are given in the Annexure.

Annexure

Major thurst areas being pursued for improved cotton and sugarcane production

I. Cotton

? Breeding for resistance against biotic and abiotic stresses, increased boll number, boll weight and increased Ginning Outturn (GOT), stability of varieties and hybrids and development of transgenic plants.
? Augmentation of breeder and certified seed production, including development of Cytoplasmic Male Sterilit (CMS) and Genetic Male Sterilit (GMS) based hybrids.
? Improvement in rainfed production technlogy of cotton
? Development of low cost production technologies.
? Emphasis on increasing the efficiency of natural resources and inputs, finding out alternate sources for nutrients and pest control.
? Emphasis on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
? Studies on organic and naturally coloured linted cotton.
? Emphasis on better transfer of technologies, socio-economic analysis, better pricing, grading and marketing.
? Establishing better linkages with all agencies involved in the cotton system
? Developing production technologies for the Eastern region.
? Transfer of technology

Notable improved varieties / hybrids developed during the IX Plan period are :

North Zone : LHH 144, LH1556, RS 875, LD 491, HD 107, HD 123, H 1098, RG 18
Central Zone : G.Cot.Hy.10, PKV Hy.3, Ankur 9, G.Cot.16, G.Cot.21, PKV Rajat, VICH 9, G.Cot.17
South Zone : LAHH 4, Sruthi, TM 1312, DHH11, Sumangala, Surabhi, L603, L604, SVPR 2, Sahana

In the efficient management of most dreadful Cotton Leaf Curl Virus diseasewhich occurs in North Zone since 1993-94, research efforts have been intensified in identifying resistant cultures besides release of varieties and hybrids as listed below :

1. Cotton Leaf Curl Virus resistant Varieties / Hybrids : LHH 144, Om Shanker, RS 875

2. Cultures identified for Cotton Leaf Curl Virus resistant : RS 2106, RS 2110, RS 2111, RS 2115, RS 2013, RS 2059, RS 213, RS 2060, CNH 1012, CNH 123

II. Sugarcane

? Genetic improvement of sugarcane
? Improved production technologies
? Management of pests and diseases

? Development of appropriate machinery
? Management of cane under stress
? Development of appropriate ratoon management techniques
? Development of technology for quality seed production
? Farming system research
? Sugarcane post-harvest technology
? Possibilities for reducing cost of sugarcane production
? Transfer of technology

Improved varieties developed during IX Plan Period are :

Early : Co 85004, Co 87263, Co 87268, CoH 92201
Mid-late : Co 87025, Co 86032, Co 87044, Co 91010, Co 8371, Co 8624, CoPant 90223, CoS 91230, BO 128, CoM 88121